Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 172926
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O 222340Z JUL 75 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 172926

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: EAID, EFIN

SUBJECT:ROC CHANGES TO ABSTENTION ON IBRD/IMF EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS SALARIES

REF: A. STATE 171595 B. TAIPEI 4554

- 1. AS USG CANNOT PRECISELY PREDICT IBRD/IMF VOTE OUTCOME, WE CANNOT GIVE ROC ASSURANCE THAT FAILURE OF ROC TO SWITCH TO ABSTENTION WOULD NOT BE DECISIVE FACTOR CAUSING FAILURE OF US EFFORT TO DEFEAT SALARY RESOLUTIONS. HOWEVER, PLEASE CONVEY INFORMATION CONTAINED IN PARAS 2 AND 3 BELOW TO ASSIST GROC IN ITS DECISION ON THIS ISSUE.
- 2. USG TALLY SHOWS 47.66 PERCENT AGAINST SALARY INCREASE CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 STATE 172926

IN IBRD WITH ICELAND AND NIGERIA RECENTLY JOINING OPPOSITION. ASSUMING THAT AS IN 1974 APPROXIMATELY 4.95 PERCENT OF VOTES NOT CAST, A MAJORITY OF 47.53 PERCENT NECESSARY

FOR RESOLUTION DEFEAT. HOWEVER, IMPOSSIBLE TO BE SURE ASSUMPTION OF 4.95 PERCENT IN ABSTENTION IS CORRECT GIVEN HIGH VISIBILITY OF ISSUE THIS YEAR. ALSO, CURRENT TALLY OF 47.66 PERCENT ASSUMES VOTES FROM GOVERNMENTS REPORTED BY US EMBASSIES TO BE QUOTE FAVORABLY DISPOSED OR SYMPATHETIC UNQUOTE TO US POSITION. IF ONE OR BOTH OF ABOVE ASSUMPTIONS TOO OPTIMISTIC, RESOLUTION COULD SUCCEED WITHOUT ROC

ABSTENTION.

3. IN IMF USG COUNTS 45.86 PERCENT SO FAR IN OPPOSITION. IF ABSTENTION RATE REMAINS AS IN 1974, MAJORITY OF 48.38 PERCENT NECESSARY FOR VICTORY AND ROC ABSTENTION THUS MORE IMPORTANT IN IMF THAN IN IBRD. KISSINGER

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To: TAIPEI

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